

get the support and the confidence of the profession and of the medical press and not abuse, accidental or otherwise.

This is the first instance since the organization of the Council that an article approved by it has been referred to in this JOURNAL as a "nostrum" or in any such way criticised, and if care will prevent it, it will be the last. Every one who knows this JOURNAL or its editor knows that it is our one desire to encourage the Council and the manufacturers who submit their products to it. On page 53 of New and Nonofficial Remedies (1911), we find, referring to chinosol, the following:

"Actions and Uses. So far as experimental evidence goes, chinosol is non-toxic. It is a powerful antiseptic equal in this respect to mercuric chloride and considerably stronger than phenol. It exerts an antiseptic action in solutions containing one part to 5,000. It is a feeble germicide, being weaker than phenol and much weaker than mercuric chloride."

HYDROPHOBIA.

Interest in rabies has been greatly intensified by its suddenly becoming prevalent in San Francisco. During the month of February many dogs developed the characteristic symptoms and a number of human beings were bitten. Proof of the presence of rabies was secured in many cases by the demonstration of Negri bodies in the ganglion cells of the brain tissue, and in some instances by the production of the disease in laboratory animals, through inoculation. The examinations were made in the State Hygienic Laboratory in Berkeley, in the Laboratory of the San Francisco Health Department, and in the Laboratory of the Letterman General Hospital at the Presidio.

The State Board of Health has done much to minimize the number of human deaths by providing Pasteur treatment with United States Government virus for the people who have been bitten by rabid animals and are unable to be immunized at their own expense. Fortunately most of the people needing treatment are receiving it, but there are a few who listen to irresponsible talk about "hysteria," "phobias," and "imagination," and are influenced to take their chance with the disease. The first human victim of those who, from lack of knowledge or from design, are stating that the disease is merely a mental state produced by fear is at this writing passing through an agonizing death-struggle in one of the San Francisco hospitals. After being bitten while trying to treat his own dog, obviously ill with rabies, this patient talked with acquaintances who told him that the disease in human beings was merely imagination. The man was persuaded against taking treatment. Four and a half weeks later the spasms in his throat commenced and nothing could be done for him except to lessen the agony of the few remaining days of life.

The disease in San Francisco is but a small part of the epidemic which has been increasing in

California during the last two and a half years. Rabies retains its foothold in Southern California and is now prevalent in the San Joaquin Valley from Bakersfield to Modesto. The number of dogs which have succumbed to the disease is estimated in the thousands. Cattle, horses, and hogs have received the infection from dogs. Several hundred persons have taken the Pasteur treatment to prevent the development of the disease after the bites of rabid animals. In California, eight persons have died with the typical symptoms of rabies.

Now a direct word to physicians: You are the authorities on health matters in your own communities and you can easily assist or greatly hinder measures for the control of rabies. There is only one feasible and successful method of controlling it and that is by the muzzling of all dogs at large so that they cannot bite each other. The physician who freely states that he has never seen a case in California and that therefore he does not believe the disease exists in the state, and the doctor who exercises his imagination devising popular substitutes for tried and efficient methods of control, make it almost impossible to produce rational legislation with regard to rabies. If physicians will inform themselves regarding this disease, new to California, it will soon be put under control through the steps obviously necessary for the protection of animals and human beings.

W. A. SAWYER.

DEL MONTE

APRIL 16TH, 17TH, 18TH.

WILL YOU BE THERE?